RESPONSE DEADLINE: June 3, 2013 REPLY DEADLINE: June 17, 2013

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UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

In re: MOTORS LIQUIDATION COMPANY, et al., f/k/a General Motors Corporation, et al., Debtors.	Chapter 11 Case No.: 09-50026 (REG) (Jointly Administered)
MOTORS LIQUIDATION COMPANY GUC TRUST, Plaintiff, v.	Adversary Proceeding Case No.: 12-09802
APPALOOSA INVESTMENT LIMITED PARTNERSHIP I; et al., Defendants.	
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NOTICE OF MOTORS LIQUIDATION COMPANY GUC TRUST'S MOTION FOR RELIEF UNDER RULE 60(b) OF THE FEDERAL RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE MADE APPLICABLE BY RULE 9024 OF THE FEDERAL RULES OF BANKRUPTCY PROCEDURE (the "GUC Trust"), formed by the above-captioned debtors (collectively, the "Debtors") in connection with the Debtors' Second Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan, dated March 18, 2011, hereby files its Motion for Relief Under Rule 60(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure made applicable by Rule 9024 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Motion") to set forth in greater detail the grounds for the Rule 60(b) relief requested in the July 2, 2010 Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors' Objection to Claims Filed by Green Hunt Wedlake, Inc. and Noteholders of General Motors Nova Scotia Finance Company and Motion for Other Relief, (Bankr. Dkt. No. 6248), and November 19, 2010 Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors' First Amended Objection to Claims Filed by Green Hunt Wedlake, Inc. and Noteholders of General Motors Nova Scotia Finance Company and Motion for Other Relief, (Bankr. Dkt. No. 7859), and that a hearing date will be fixed by an order of this Court to consider the Motion and will be held before the Honorable Robert E. Gerber, United States Bankruptcy Judge, in Room 621 of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York, One Bowling Green, New York, New York 10004.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that any responses to the Motion must be in writing, shall conform to the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure and the Local Rules of the Bankruptcy Court, and shall be filed with the Bankruptcy Court (a) electronically in accordance with General Order M-399 (which can be found at www.nysb.uscourts.gov) by registered users of the Bankruptcy Court's filing system, and (b) by all other parties in interest, on a CD-ROM or 3.5 inch disk, in text-searchable portable document format (PDF) (with a hard copy delivered directly to Chambers), in accordance with the customary practices of the Bankruptcy Court and General Order M-399, to the extent applicable, and served in accordance

with General Order M-399 and on (i) Dickstein Shapiro LLP, attorneys for the GUC Trust, 1633 Broadway, New York, New York, 10019-6708 (Attn: Barry N. Seidel, Esq., and Eric. B. Fisher, Esq.); (ii) the Debtors, c/o Motors Liquidation Company, 401 South Old Woodward Avenue, Suite 370, Birmingham, Michigan 48009; (iii) General Motors, LLC, 400 Renaissance Center, Detroit, Michigan 48265 (Attn: Lawrence S. Buonomo, Esq.); (iv) Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP, attorneys for the United States Department of the Treasury, One World Financial Center, New York, New York 10281 (Attn: John J. Rapisardi, Esq.); (v) the United States Department of the Treasury, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Room 2312, Washington, D.C. 20220 (Attn: Joseph Samarias, Esq.); (vi) Vedder Price, P.C., attorneys for Export Development Canada, 1633 Broadway, 47th Floor, New York, New York 10019 (Attn: Michael J. Edelman, Esq. and Michael L. Schein, Esq.); (vii) Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel LLP, attorneys for the statutory committee of unsecured creditors, 1177 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10036 (Attn: Thomas Moers Mayer, Esq., Robert Schmidt, Esq., Lauren Macksoud, Esq., and Jennifer Sharret, Esq.); (viii) the Office of the United States Trustee for the Southern District of New York, 33 Whitehall Street, 21st Floor, New York, New York 10004 (Attn: Tracy Hope Davis, Esq.); (ix) the U.S. Attorney's Office, S.D.N.Y., 86 Chambers Street, Third Floor, New York, New York 10007 (Attn: David S. Jones, Esq. and Natalie Kuehler, Esq.); (x) Caplin & Drysdale, Chartered, attorneys for the official committee of unsecured creditors holding asbestos-related claims, 375 Park Avenue, 35th Floor, New York, New York 10152-3500 (Attn: Elihu Inselbuch, Esq. and Rita C. Tobin, Esq.) and One Thomas Circle, N.W., Suite 1100, Washington, DC 20005 (Attn: Trevor W. Swett III, Esq. and Kevin C. Maclay, Esq.); (xi) Stutzman, Bromberg, Esserman & Plifka, A Professional Corporation, attorneys for Dean M. Trafelet in his capacity as the legal representative for future asbestos personal injury claimants,

2323 Bryan Street, Suite 2200, Dallas, Texas 75201 (Attn: Sander L. Esserman, Esq. and Robert T. Brousseau, Esq.); (xii) Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP, attorneys for Wilmington Trust Company as GUC Trust Administrator and for Wilmington Trust Company as Avoidance Action Trust Administrator, 200 Park Avenue, 47th Floor, New York, New York 10166 (Attn: Keith Martorana, Esq.); (xiii) FTI Consulting, as the GUC Trust Monitor and as the Avoidance Action Trust Monitor, One Atlantic Center, 1201 West Peachtree Street, Suite 500, Atlanta, Georgia 30309 (Attn: Anna Phillips); (xiv) Crowell & Moring LLP, attorneys for the Revitalizing Auto Communities Environmental Response Trust, 590 Madison Avenue, 19th Floor, New York, New York 10022-2524 (Attn: Michael V. Blumenthal, Esq.); and (xv) Kirk P. Watson, Esq., as the Asbestos Trust Administrator, 2301 Woodlawn Boulevard, Austin, Texas 78703, so as to be received no later than **June 3, 2013** (the "**Response Deadline**").

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that if no responses are timely filed and served with respect to the Motion, the GUC Trust may, on or after the Response Deadline, submit to the Bankruptcy Court an order granting the relief requested in the Motion, which order may be entered with no further notice or opportunity to be heard offered to any party.

Dated: New York, New York May 3, 2013

Respectfully submitted,

By: <u>/s/ Eric B. Fisher</u>

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UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

In re: Chapter 11

MOTORS LIQUIDATION COMPANY, et al., f/k/a General Motors Corporation, et al.,

Debtors. (Jointly Administered)

MOTORS LIQUIDATION COMPANY GUC TRUST,

Plaintiff, Adversary Proceeding Case No.: 12-09802

V. APPALOOSA INVESTMENT LIMITED PARTNERSHIP I; et al.,

Defendants.

MOTORS LIQUIDATION COMPANY
GUC TRUST'S MOTION AND INCORPORATED
MEMORANDUM OF LAW FOR RELIEF UNDER RULE 60(b)
OF THE FEDERAL RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE MADE APPLICABLE
BY RULE 9024 OF THE FEDERAL RULES OF BANKRUPTCY PROCEDURE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF	AUTH	ORITIES	111
RELIEF RE	QUEST	TED AND PRELIMINARY STATEMENT	1
JURISDICT	ION A	ND VENUE	4
FACTUAL 1	BACKO	GROUND	4
I.	THE	LOCK-UP AGREEMENT	4
II.	THE	SWAPS	5
III.	THE LOCK-UP AGREEMENT WAS NOT THE SUBJECT OF A MOTION OR ADEQUATELY DISCLOSED		7
	A.	The \$450 Million Loan and Anticipated Settlement with the Noteholders Were Not Disclosed in the First Day Affidavit Pursuant to Local Bankruptcy Rule 1007-2	7
	В.	The Lock-Up Agreement and Swaps Were Not Adequately Disclosed in the Disclosure Schedules to the MSPA	7
	C.	There Was No Notice of the Purported Assumption and Assignment of the Lock-Up Agreement and Swaps	8
	D.	The Lock-Up Agreement and Swaps Were Not Disclosed During the Sale Approval Process	10
	E.	Old GM's Funding of the Consent Fee Was Not Disclosed	11
	F.	The June 1, 2009 Form 8-K Disclosure Was Inadequate	13
	G.	The Parties to the Lock-Up Agreement Attempted to Evade this Court's Review	15
IV.	PRO	CEDURAL BACKGROUND	16
	A.	The Creditors' Committee Did Not Become Aware of the Lock-Up Agreement Until October 2009	16

	Б.	Relief Has Been Limited, Alternative and Consistent	17
	C.	Defendants, New GM and the Court Have Long Been Aware of the Nature of the GUC Trust's Limited Rule 60(b) Relief	19
ARGUMENT	Γ		20
I.	RULI	E 60(b) RELIEF IS WARRANTED	20
	A.	The Standard for Relief Under Rule 60(b)	20
	В.	Relief Under Rule 60(b)(1) and (2) Is Appropriate Because of the Failure to Disclose the Lock-Up Agreement and Swaps	22
		1. The Creditors' Committee Should Be Excused Under Rule 60(b)(1) for Not Challenging the Lock-Up Agreement Prior to Entry of the Sale Order	22
		2. Failure to Disclose the Lock-Up Agreement and Swaps Warrants Relief Under Rule 60(b)(2)	23
	C.	Failure to Disclose the Lock-Up Agreement and Swaps Constitutes Misconduct Which Warrants Relief Under Rule 60(b)(3)	24
	D.	The Extraordinary Circumstances of this Matter Justify Rule 60(b)(6) Relief	25
II.	THE	GUC TRUST'S REQUEST FOR RULE 60(b) RELIEF IS TIMELY	27
III.		E 60(b) RELIEF WILL NOT OSE UNDUE HARDSHIP ON THE PARTIES	29
NOTICE			31
CONCLUSIO	ΟN		32

TABLE OF AUTHORITIES

Cases	<u>Page</u>
Bd. of Trs. of S. Cal. IBEW-NECA Defined Contribution Plan v. Bank of N.Y. Mellon Corp., No. 09 Civ. 6273 (RMB) (AJP), 2010 WL 3958790 (S.D.N.Y. Sept. 7, 2010)	23
Catskill Dev., LLC v. Park Place Entm't Corp., 286 F. Supp. 2d 309 (S.D.N.Y. 2003), judgment reinstated, 345 F. Supp. 2d 360 (S.D.N.Y. Nov. 15, 2004), vacated and remanded, Catskill Litig. Trust v. Park Place Entm't Corp., 169 Fed. App'x 658 (2d Cir. 2006), on remand to Debary v. Harrah's Operating Co., Inc., 465 F. Supp. 2d 250 (S.D.N.Y. 2006), aff'd, 547 F.3d 115 (2d Cir. 2008), cert. denied, Catskill Dev., LLC v. Harrah's Operating Co., Inc., 129 S. Ct. 1908 (2009)	20, 25
Commer v. Mcentee, No. 00 Civ. 7913 (RWS), 2005 WL 1250214 (S.D.N.Y. May 27, 2005)	23
Golden Oldies, Ltd. v. Scorpion Auction Grp., Inc., 199 F.R.D. 98 (E.D.N.Y. 2001)	28
Green v. Advanced Cardiovascular Imaging, No. 07 Civ. 3141, 2009 WL 3154317 (S.D.N.Y. Sept. 30, 2009)	21, 22
Guishan, Inc. v. Arici, 635 F. Supp. 2d 187 (E.D.N.Y. 2009)	22, 28
In re Enron Creditors Recovery Corp., No. 01-16034 (AJG), 2009 WL 3756951 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. Nov. 6, 2009)	22, 26
In re Jack Kline Co., Inc., 440 B.R. 712 (Bankr. S.D. Tex. 2010)	22
In re Olejnik, No. 09-76714-AST, 2010 WL 4366183 (Bankr. E.D.N.Y. Oct. 28, 2010)25	, 27, 29
Judith Ripka Creations, Inc. v. Rubinoff Imps., Inc., No. 03 Civ. 9377 (BJT), 2004 WL 1609338 (S.D.N.Y. July 16, 2004)	21, 25
Katz v. Mogus, No. 07 Civ. 8314, 2012 WL 263462 (S.D.N.Y. Jan. 25, 2012)	23, 29
Kotlicky v. U.S. Fid. & Guar. Co., 817 F.2d 6 (2d Cir. 1987)	20, 29

Nos. 94 Civ. 2373, 94 Civ. 2546 (MBM) (MBM),	
1997 WL 167043 (S.D.N.Y. April 9, 1997)	23, 24
Montco, Inc. v. Barr (In re Emergency Beacon Corp.), 666 F.2d 754 (2d Cir. 1981)	26-29
P.T. Busana Idaman Nurani v. Marissa by GHR Indus. Trading, 151 F.R.D. 32 (S.D.N.Y. 1993)	27
Pasquino v. Lev Parkview Developers, LLC, No. 09 Civ. 4255, 2011 WL 4502205 (S.D.N.Y. Sept. 29, 2011)	20
Pioneer Inv. Servs. v. Brunswick Assocs., LP, 507 U.S. 380 (1993)	22
Sec. Pac. Mortg. & Real Estate Servs. v. Herald Ctr. Ltd., 731 F. Supp. 605 (S.D.N.Y. 1990)	29
SEC v. Wojeski, 752 F. Supp. 2d 220 (N.D.N.Y. 2010), aff'd, Smith v. SEC, 432 F. App'x 10 (2d Cir. 2011)	21, 24-25
Vasquez v. Carey, No. 03 Civ. 3905 (RJH), 2010 WL 1140850 (S.D.N.Y. Mar. 24,	2010)21, 28
Federal Statutes	
11 U.S.C. § 105(a)	31
11 U.S.C. § 502(d)	2
28 U.S.C. § 157	4
28 U.S.C. § 1334	4
28 U.S.C. § 1409	4
Rules	
Fed. R. Civ. P. 60(b)	1,2, 4, 14, 17-23, 25, 27-32
Fed. R. Civ. P. 60(b)(1)	3, 21-23, 26, 28, 29
Fed. R. Civ. P. 60(b)(2)	3, 21-24, 26, 28
Fed. R. Civ. P. 60(b)(3)	3, 21, 22, 24-26, 28
Fed. R. Civ. P. 60(b)(4)	26. 28

Fed. R. Civ. P. 60(b)(5)	26, 28
Fed. R. Civ. P. 60(b)(6)	3, 21, 22, 25-28
Fed. R. Civ. P. 60(c)(1)	28
Fed. R. Bankr. P. 1015(c)	31
Fed. R. Bankr. P. 9007	31
Fed. R. Bankr. P. 9024	1, 21
S.D.N.Y. LBR 1007-2	7

TO THE HONORABLE ROBERT E. GERBER, UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE:

The Motors Liquidation Company GUC Trust (the "GUC Trust") respectfully submits this motion and incorporated memorandum of law (the "Motion") for relief under Rule 60(b) ("Rule 60(b)") of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (the "Federal Rules") made applicable by Rule 9024 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules").

RELIEF REQUESTED AND PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

By this Motion, the GUC Trust seeks relief from the order approving the Amended and Restated Master Sale and Purchase Agreement dated as of June 26, 2009 (as amended on June 30, 2009 and July 5, 2009) between General Motors Corporation ("**Old GM**") and General Motors LLC ("**New GM**") (the "**MSPA**")² and the related orders of this Court (collectively, the "**Sale Order**").³

The grounds for this motion could not be simpler: because the Lock-Up Agreement and Swaps (defined below) were not adequately disclosed and were never the subject of a motion before this Court, the Sale Order should not have any impact upon the GUC Trust's ability to challenge the Lock-Up Agreement, Swaps and related claims. This Motion is brought in the

Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the GUC Trust's June 11, 2012 Amended Complaint (the "Amended Complaint") (Adv. Pro. Dkt. 37) filed in *Motors Liquidation Co. GUC Trust v. Appaloosa Investment Ltd. Partnership I, et al.*, Adv. Pro. No. 12-09802 (the "Adversary Proceeding"). All references herein to "Pl. Ex." and "Def. Ex." refer to the GUC Trust's and Defendants' exhibits admitted into evidence in connection with the trial in the Adversary Proceeding and hearing on the November 19, 2010 Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors' First Amended Objection to Claims Filed by Green Hunt Wedlake, Inc. and Noteholders of General Motors Nova Scotia Finance Company and Motion for Other Relief (the "First Amended Objection") (Bankr. Dkt. No. 7859). All references herein to "Decl." refer to the direct testimony affidavits submitted in connection with the Adversary Proceeding.

Def. Ex. 226 (Sale Approval Order attaching MSPA and its amendments) (Bankr. Dkt. No. 2968).

The related orders include the June 2, 2009 order approving the June 1, 2009 master sale and purchase agreement (the "Sale Procedures Order") (Pl. Ex. 275) (Bankr. Dkt. No. 274), and the July 5, 2009 order approving the MSPA dated as of June 26, 2009 (the "Sale Approval Order") (Def. Ex. 226) (Bankr. Dkt. No. 2968).

alternative. For the reasons to be set forth in the GUC Trust's post-trial brief, this Court may grant all of the relief sought in the GUC Trust's Amended Complaint and First Amended Objection⁴ without any need to modify the Sale Order.

In particular, the alternative relief sought by this Motion includes rulings that:

- the Lock-Up Agreement was not assumed by the Debtors and assigned to New GM;⁵
- the Swaps (defined below) were not assumed and assigned, or otherwise transferred, to New GM;⁶ and
- avoidance actions related to payment of the Consent Fee (defined below) were not sold to New GM.⁷

If the Court reaches the GUC Trust's request for Rule 60(b) relief, the Motion should be granted because the Lock-Up Agreement and Swaps were not properly disclosed to this Court or the Creditors' Committee until well after the Court approved the Sale Order in July 2009.⁸

New GM admitted at trial that the Lock-Up Agreement and Swaps were not disclosed to the Court prior to July 2009 and, indeed, that there were no efforts to disclose either the Lock-Up

First Am. Objection (Bankr. Dkt. No. 7859); Amended Compl. (Adv. Pro. Dkt. 37).

This relief will not be necessary if, for example, the Court decides that the Lock-Up Agreement is void or was not transferred to New GM for other reasons.

This relief will not be necessary if, for example, the Court decides that the Swaps were not assumed and assigned due to the failure to comply with the applicable procedures.

This relief will not be necessary if, for example, the Court decides that these particular avoidance actions were not sold to New GM because the transfers at issue were not transfers to or from a Purchased Subsidiary (as that term is defined in the MSPA); or if the Court decides that, even if the avoidance actions have been sold, the GUC Trust may nonetheless obtain relief defensively under 11 U.S.C. § 502(d).

Although this Motion precedes the GUC Trust's post-trial brief, which is due to be filed in two weeks, the Court has already ruled in its July 19, 2012 bench decision on New GM's Motion for Summary Judgment ("New GM SJ Hr'g," attached hereto as Exhibit A) that the GUC Trust's request for Rule 60(b) relief is not ripe for adjudication. This Motion will only need to be decided if the Court construes the terms of the Sale Order to preclude any of the relief sought by the GUC Trust in its Amended Complaint and First Amended Objection. See New GM SJ Hr'g Tr. 90:15-16 ("Because I find that the issues aren't ripe I'm not deciding the 60(b) motion today"). For reasons to be set forth in the GUC Trust's post-trial brief, the reading of the Sale Order advanced by the Noteholders is mistaken.

Agreement or the Swaps to the Court. ⁹ It is unsurprising then that the representatives of the Creditors' Committee were unaware of the Lock-Up Agreement during the sale approval process. ¹⁰ Indeed, the Court observed that it was a "shock" to learn of the Lock-Up Agreement after the sale, ¹¹ and that had it been aware of the Lock-Up Agreement, it "might well have refused to sign the order in its then existing form, and [...] insisted the lock-up agreement not be insulated from judicial scrutiny no matter what threats the Nova Scotia Noteholders had made at the time." ¹²

Because the Lock-Up Agreement was not properly disclosed, and has never been the subject of an approval motion, the Creditors' Committee did not know to object to its terms before the Sale Order was entered, and the Court was never asked to, and was never in a position to, determine whether the Lock-Up Agreement was in the best interests of the Debtors' estates. Accordingly, as explained in detail below, the record supports the GUC Trust's request for relief under Rule 60(b)(1), (2), (3) and (6).

See Buonomo Tr. 132:12-15 (Aug. 10, 2012) (Lawrence Buonomo, Practice Area Manager and Global Process Leader of Litigation for New GM's Legal Staff, in response to the Court's question "[a]re you aware of any efforts on the part of GM or its counsel to disclose the lock-up to me before this controversy arose?" responded "To you specifically, no."); *id.* at 132:22-133:1 (Court: "Do you know of any efforts on the part of GM or its counsel to disclose the existence of those swap agreements to me at any time before this controversy arose?" Buonomo: "No, as to that, I'm quite certain there was never any specific effort[] to disclose.").

See Vanaskey Tr. 96:4-5 (Nov. 27, 2012); Mayer Tr. 171:16-19; 173:10-23 (Oct. 3, 2012).

New GM SJ Hr'g Tr. 94:10-14 (Court: "It never once occurred to me, and nobody bothered to disclose, that amongst all of the assigned contracts was this lock-up agreement, if indeed it was assigned at all. When I heard about that it wasn't just a surprise, it was a shock."); *id.* at 92:18-23 (there was a "failure of anyone to say anything to me at the time of the 363 sale hearing about the lock-up agreement or at the prospect that the sale order I'd signed would have the purpose or effect of authorizing the transactions that are said to be protected under my order here").

¹² *Id.* at 93:14-18.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

This Court has jurisdiction to consider this matter under 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334. This is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b). Venue is proper before this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1409.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND¹³

I. THE LOCK-UP AGREEMENT

The terms of the Lock-Up Agreement at the heart of this matter, which involve the postpetition payment of approximately \$367 million dollars and purportedly give rise to claims against the Old GM estate totaling approximately \$2.7 billion dollars, were not properly disclosed to this Court or the Creditors' Committee in advance of entry of the Sale Order. Indeed, the Lock-Up Agreement has never been the subject of any motion seeking this Court's approval.

When Old GM's bankruptcy petition (the "**Petition**")¹⁴ was filed with this Court at 7:57 a.m. (EDT) on June 1, 2009, Old GM, certain holders of Notes issued by Nova Scotia Finance (the "**Noteholders**") and their respective counsel had still not completed the Lock-Up Agreement.¹⁵ The parties to the negotiations completed the Lock-Up Agreement after Old GM filed its bankruptcy petition, setting in motion a series of postpetition actions designed to secure

The GUC Trust refers the Court to the GUC Trust's forthcoming post-trial brief for a complete summary of the facts of this case. This Motion only addresses those facts pertinent to Rule 60(b) relief.

¹⁴ Bankr. Dkt. No. 1.

As the GUC Trust will explain in its forthcoming post-trial brief, the evidence at trial shows that the Lock-Up Agreement is a postpetition agreement. *See, e.g.*, Jones Tr. 212:16-25; 213:1-6 (Sept. 4, 2012) (the metadata log and the internal metadata for the execution version of the Lock-Up Agreement show that the execution version was created postpetition).

advantages for the Noteholders not enjoyed by Old GM's other unsecured creditors. These actions include:¹⁶

- (i) Payment of a \$367 million "consent fee" (the "Consent Fee") representing over 36% of the face amount of the Notes to the Noteholders funded by a \$450 million transfer from Old GM to GM Canada (the "450 Million Loan") that was earmarked for the Noteholders; 17
- (ii) Execution and delivery of Old GM's consent to Nova Scotia Finance filing for bankruptcy;
- (iii) Old GM's consent to the allowance of claims against it for the full amount of the Notes based on Old GM's guarantee of those Notes, without any reduction of principal to account for payment of the Consent Fee (the "Guarantee Claims"); and
- (iv) Old GM's consent to the allowance of a duplicative claim against it on account of Old GM's alleged liability, under Nova Scotia law, for the balance due on the Notes at maturity and the Swap Liability (the "ULC Claim") to be asserted against it by Nova Scotia Finance's bankruptcy trustee, (the "Nova Scotia Finance Trustee"), who was selected by the Noteholders to administer Nova Scotia Finance's estate.

II. THE SWAPS

As an indirect consequence of the Lock-Up Agreement, the Swap Liability, which was an asset of Old GM as of the Petition Date, became a purported liability against Old GM in excess of half a billion dollars.¹⁸ The Swap Liability arose out of currency swap agreements entered into by Old GM and Nova Scotia Finance in July 2003 (the "Swaps") in connection with the issuance of the Notes.¹⁹ Notably, as of June 1, 2009, Old GM was "in the money" with respect

See generally Pl. Ex. 315 (Nova Scotia Finance Trustee Proof of Claim); Pl. Ex. 16 (executed Lock-Up Agreement).

Ammann Tr. 85:18-25; 86:1-2 (Sept. 27, 2013); Buonomo Decl. ¶ 43.

See Pl. Ex. 315 (Green Hunt Wedlake Proof of Claim).

¹⁹ Buonomo Decl. ¶¶ 22, 23.

to the Swaps.²⁰ However, under the Lock-Up Agreement, the amount of the Swap Liability was to be included in the ULC Claim and any claim against Nova Scotia Finance based on the Swaps would be subordinated to payment in full of the Notes should the ULC Claim be disallowed, even in part. The Swaps were then purportedly transferred to New GM in connection with Old GM's 363 sale in the bankruptcy case (the "363 Sale").²¹ As the supposed claimant under the Swaps, New GM asserted a \$564 million claim against Nova Scotia Finance in its Canadian bankruptcy proceeding (the "New GM Swap Claim") on November 9, 2009.²² The Nova Scotia Finance Trustee, in turn and at the direction of the Noteholders, included the amount of the New GM Swap Claim in his ULC Claim against Old GM.²³ As a consequence of these behind-the-scenes maneuvers, a claim that should have been for the benefit of Old GM became a purported liability.²⁴

See Pl. Ex. 16 (executed copy of the Lock-Up Agreement) \P 6(v) ("Guarantor confirms that its only claim against [Nova Scotia Finance] is the Swap Liability").

See Pl. Ex. 139 (New GM Swap Claim, filed in the bankruptcy case of Nova Scotia Finance) (Buonomo certifies that New GM "acquired rights in the account as of July 10, 2009 pursuant to its acquisition of substantially all of the assets of" Old GM). Subsequently, New GM took the position that the Swaps were assumed and assigned. Buonomo Tr. 106:5-7 (Aug. 9, 2012) ("[The Swaps] were designated for assumption according to the procedures in place").

²² Id

See Pl. Ex. 315 (Green Hunt Wedlake Proof of Claim).

In fact, the key individuals at New GM did not always believe that the Swap Liability had been assumed and assigned to New GM, a fact known to at least Aurelius Investment, LLC ("Aurelius"), one of the Noteholders. *See* Pl. Ex. 248 (July 27, 2009 email from Prieto to Gropper: "there is a view [at GM] that [the] swap claim is not included when calculating the wind-up claim"); Pl. Ex. 22 (July 30, 2009 email from Buonomo to Prieto stating: "I inquired with Weil Gotshal, which reminded me that inasmuch as the Swap was not assigned this decision rests with Motors Liquidation Company (Oldco), which apparently has it under review."); Gropper Tr. 33:23-34:3 (Sept. 28, 2012) (Gropper was aware of this view). Nevertheless, as will be explained more fully in the GUC Trust's post-trial brief, the Noteholders encouraged New GM to assert the claim. *See* Gropper Tr. 84:13-22 (Sept. 28, 2012) (Gropper recommended that the swap claim be included in the wind-up claim).

III. THE LOCK-UP AGREEMENT WAS NOT THE SUBJECT OF A MOTION OR ADEQUATELY DISCLOSED

Even though the Lock-Up Agreement involved a \$367 million payment to the Noteholders from funds advanced by Old GM,²⁵ and ultimately gave rise to more than \$2.67 billion in claims, there was never a motion before this Court concerning the Lock-Up Agreement. Nor was there otherwise any adequate disclosure of the Lock-Up Agreement's key terms. As a result, the terms of the Lock-Up Agreement, and its serious consequences for creditors of Old GM, were unknown to the Debtors' creditors, other parties in interest and this Court until months after the Sale Order was approved.

A. The \$450 Million Loan and Anticipated Settlement with the Noteholders Were Not Disclosed in the First Day Affidavit Pursuant to Local Bankruptcy Rule 1007-2

The disclosure failures began on the first day of this bankruptcy proceeding, when the First Day Affidavit filed by the Debtors under Local Bankruptcy Rule 1007-2²⁶ omitted any mention of the \$450 Million Loan or the anticipated settlement with the Noteholders.

B. The Lock-Up Agreement and Swaps Were Not Adequately Disclosed in the Disclosure Schedules to the MSPA

The failure to disclose the Lock-Up Agreement and Swaps continued into the month of June. In early June of 2009, confidential disclosure schedules to the MSPA (the "**Disclosure Schedules**") that were not otherwise publicly available, were provided to Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel LLP ("**Kramer Levin**"), counsel for the Creditors' Committee.²⁷ Among the 145-

As will be shown in the post-trial brief, these funds constituted property of Old GM's estate and were earmarked for payment to the Noteholders. The advance of the funds was subject to an undisclosed Trust Agreement, the conditions of which were not satisfied. *See* Buonomo Tr. 80:13-25; 81:1-9 (August 9, 2012).

²⁶ Bankr. Dkt. No. 21.

See Pl. Ex. 265 at CC005517-5664 (June 5, 2009 email from Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP circulating schedules).

pages of disclosure schedules, the Lock-Up Agreement is mentioned in a single paragraph in Schedule 6.2.²⁸ However, this is only one schedule among many where the Creditors' Committee would expect an agreement such as the Lock-Up Agreement to appear, and this particular Schedule 6.2 was omitted from the publicly filed version of the Disclosure Schedules.²⁹ The Disclosure Schedules also fail to disclose the amount of the Swaps (\$564 million), the amount of the Consent Fee (\$367 million) or the amount of the \$450 Million Loan.³⁰ In fact, the final version of the confidential schedule attached to the MSPA did not contain any disclosure at all about the \$450 million transfer.³¹

Likewise, there is no mention of the Swaps in the Disclosure Schedules. At trial, in response to the Court's questions, Lawrence Buonomo conceded that he does not "believe the word swap was ever mentioned" in the schedules and that the Swaps were not adequately disclosed to the Court in the MSPA.³²

C. There Was No Notice of the Purported Assumption and Assignment of the Lock-Up Agreement and Swaps

New GM and the Noteholders contend that the Lock-Up Agreement and Swaps were assumed by Old GM and assigned to New GM in connection with the 363 Sale. However, the Creditors' Committee never received any notice concerning the supposed assumption and

Id. at CC005655-56 (Disclosure Schedule 6.2). Schedule 4.6 of the MSPA also briefly mentions a "Nova Scotia Settlement" without any further detail or background. See id. at CC005566 (¶ 14).

Compare Pl. Ex. 265 with Bankr. Dkt. No. 2649.

See generally Pl. Ex. 265 CC005655-56. Mr. Buonomo also conceded that disclosure schedules make no disclosure of the amount of the \$450 Million Loan. See Buonomo Tr. 100:18-24 (Aug. 10, 2012).

Compare Pl. Ex. 265 (Disclosure Schedule 6.2, \P 3 at CC005655-656) with Bankr. Dkt. No. 8087 (Disclosure Schedule 6.2, \P 2 at 106-107).

Buonomo Tr. 129:2-18 (Aug. 10, 2012).

assignment of the Lock-Up Agreement and Swaps.³³ While notice to the Creditors' Committee was not strictly required under the Sale Procedures Order, ³⁴ notice should have been provided, given the enormous consequences of the Lock-Up Agreement upon unsecured creditors and the lack of information about the Lock-Up Agreement.

Indeed, notice was not even provided to the Noteholders themselves, who were required to receive notice as a prerequisite to assumption and assignment.³⁵ Mr. Buonomo concedes that no assumption notice was sent to the Noteholders prior to the 363 Sale.³⁶ The first indication the Noteholders received that the Lock-Up Agreement had purportedly been assumed and assigned was in November 2009, several months after entry of the Sale Order, when Mr. Zirinsky received an email from Mr. Buonomo purporting to "confirm" that the Lock-Up Agreement was assumed.³⁷

Buonomo Tr. 145:13-20 (Aug. 9, 2012) (Fisher: "For clarification, before we objected to – before the creditors' committee objected to the claims that are at issue, are you aware of the creditors' committee having received notice of the assumption of the lockup agreement? … I'm just asking whether you're aware." Answer: "I have no knowledge. Not that I'm aware.").

See Pl. Ex. 275 (Sale Procedure Order) ¶ 10, p. 10 (requiring Old GM to provide an assumption and assignment notice containing an objection deadline, in the form attached as Exhibit D to the Sale Procedures Order).

See *id.*; Zirinsky Tr. 109:21-23. (Aug. 8, 2012) (neither he, as counsel for the Noteholders, nor any of his clients received notice that the Lock-Up Agreement was assumed); *id.* at 112:12-10 (he does not recall ever having seen Exhibit D in relation to the Lock-Up Agreement).

³⁶ Buonomo Tr. 143:20-144:4 (Aug. 9, 2012).

See Pl. Ex. 153 (November 18, 2009 email from Buonomo to Zirinsky attaching letter that purported to "confirm" that New GM assumed the rights and obligations of Old GM under the Lock-Up Agreement); Pl. Ex. 43 at AUR_GM020970 (November 18, 2009 emails between Buonomo and Zirinsky regarding database, "Each of the noteholder parties should have received a notice of assumption with a login to view contract to which they are a party."); Zirinsky Tr. 109:14-23 (Aug. 8, 2012) (Zirinsky was unaware that the Lock-Up Agreement had been assumed until he spoke with Buonomo in November); *id.* at 110:1-111:5 (same).

D. The Lock-Up Agreement and Swaps Were Not Disclosed During the Sale Approval Process

Finally, there was an overall failure to disclose the Lock-Up Agreement and Swaps to the Court and the Creditors' Committee during the sale approval process. For example, the Sale Motion itself does not mention the Lock-Up Agreement.³⁸ In fact, the trial testimony establishes that the Lock-Up Agreement was never disclosed to the Court at any point in the sale process.³⁹ Nor were the Swaps disclosed prior to approval of the sale.⁴⁰

As the Court noted during the July 19, 2012 New GM summary judgment hearing, there was a failure to disclose the Lock-Up Agreement prior to commencement of this claim objection proceeding in July 2010, and the disclosures that were made were "scattered and incomplete." The Court went on to explain that it was not just a "surprise" to learn of the Lock-Up Agreement, but a "shock." The Court explained that there was a "failure of anyone to say anything to me at the time of the 363 sale hearing about the [Lock-Up Agreement] or at the prospect that the sale order I'd signed would have the purpose or effect of authorizing the transactions that are said to be protected under my order here." The Court noted it was unaware that when it approved the sale agreement, "I was also authorizing a payment to a limited number of creditors of \$367

³⁸ See Pl. Ex. 274 (Bankr. Dkt. No. 92).

See, e.g., Mayer Tr. 171:16-19 (Oct. 3, 2012) (Fisher: "Do you recall the lock-up agreement being the subject of discussion at the hearing with respect to approval of the sale in this case?" Answer: "No."); Buonomo Tr. 132:12-15 (Aug. 10, 2012) (Court: "Are you aware of any efforts on the part of GM or its counsel to disclose the lock-up to me before this controversy arose?" Answer: "To you specifically, no.").

See Buonomo Tr. 132:22-133:1 (Aug. 10, 2012) (Court: "Do you know of any efforts on the part of GM or its counsel to disclose the existence of those swap agreements to me at any time before this controversy arose?" Answer: "No, as to that, I'm quite certain there was never any specific efforts to disclose."); id. at 133:2-5 (Court: "And would I be correct in concluding from that that your answer would be the same with respect to any assignment of the swap agreements?" Answer: "Yes.").

⁴¹ New GM SJ Hr'g Tr. 92:23.

⁴² *Id.* at 94:13-14.

⁴³ *Id.* at 92:18-23.

million, a commitment not to object to as much as \$2.67 billion in claims, and an assignment out of the estate of the right to bring important avoidance actions."⁴⁴ Had the Court been aware of the Lock-Up Agreement, it "might well have refused to sign the order in its then existing form, and I would have insisted that the [Lock-Up Agreement] not be insulated from judicial scrutiny no matter what threats the Nova Scotia Noteholders had made at the time."⁴⁵ As the Court observed, the lack of disclosure had the "potential to injure Old GM creditors to the extent of hundreds of millions, if not billions of dollars."⁴⁶

E. Old GM's Funding of the Consent Fee Was Not Disclosed

While disclosure of the Lock-Up Agreement was paltry and insufficient to provide adequate notice to any party-in-interest, disclosure of the nearly half a billion dollar Old GM loan used to fund the Consent Fee was wholly absent. Prior to approval of the Sale Order, there was no disclosure that on May 29, 2009, Old GM transferred \$450 million to GM Canada. Nor was there a disclosure to the Creditors' Committee that the \$450 Million Loan, supposedly made one business day before the Petition was filed, was earmarked to fund the \$367 million Consent Fee that eventually made its way to the Noteholders. In fact, Old GM attempted to transfer the funds on May 29th, even though the parties had not yet agreed on the amount of the Consent Fee, because the parties wanted the funds out of Old GM's accounts in a deliberate attempt to keep

Id. at 94:5-9.

⁴⁵ *Id.* at 93:14-18.

⁴⁶ *Id.* at 91:19-21.

See Pl. Ex. 263 (August 11, 2009 Interim Report) (Bankr. Dkt. No. 3762) (fails to disclose the loan to GM Canada); September 15, 2009 Statement of Financial Affairs for Motors Liquidation Company (f/k/a General Motors Corporation) (Bankr. Dkt. No. 4060) (fails to disclose the loan made to GM Canada).

the funds from being "attackable." ⁴⁸ In short, the Creditors' Committee and the Court were left completely in the dark as to the use of estate funds to pay the \$367 million Consent Fee.

Nor was it disclosed that the \$450 million transferred from Old GM to GM Canada was subject to a Trust Agreement. 49 The Trust Agreement governed the advance of the funds, and as of June 1, 2009, its conditions had not been satisfied. The conditions set forth in the Trust Agreement were then amended postpetition without this Court's approval, but, even then remained unsatisfied.⁵⁰ Postpetition, the terms of the Trust Agreement were amended to "conform to the deal that was reached" 51 without any disclosure and without this Court's approval.

The failure to disclose the \$450 million transfer, the associated Trust Agreement and the Consent Fee disadvantaged the Creditors' Committee during the sale approval process. Had these transactions been made known to the Creditors' Committee, it could potentially have understood the implications of the Lock-Up Agreement, including the purported transfer of the avoidance actions to New GM under the Sale Order. Without this knowledge, the Creditors' Committee had no reason to object to the Sale Order.

⁴⁸ See Pl. Ex. 3 (Prieto Notebook) at AUR GM021457 ("[T]he money is in a trust account in Canada where it is being held for the deal – does not think that money will be attackable where it is now ... the rights to this preference will be assumed by NewCo in the 363."); see also Zirinsky Tr. 38:15-18 (Aug. 8, 2012) ("[W]e wanted to be comfortable that the way this transaction was going to be structured would do so, would do it in the right way so that there wouldn't be any potential attack."); id. at 41:7-13 (Fisher "And, Mr. Zirinsky, when you were participating in the [Lock-Up Agreement] negotiations, you wanted to be sure that you didn't end up in a position where the money used to fund the settlement was still in a GM U.S. account, right?" Answer: "Mr. Fisher, my concern was to make sure that if we went ahead and did this agreement that the money would be there to pay the [Noteholders] the consent fee."); Gropper Tr. 66:9-12 (Sept. 28, 2012) (it was important that funds not be in a GM account at the time of GM's bankruptcy petition).

See Pl. Ex. 134 (May 29, 2009 email from Joyce Zhou to Buonomo and others attaching \$450 Million Loan Promissory Note, Trust Agreement and Approval Note).

Buonomo Tr. 80:13-81:9 (August 9, 2012).

See Buonomo Tr. 87:4-5 (Aug. 8, 2012); see also Pl. Ex. 136 (June 5, 2009 email forwarding second amendment to Trust Agreement).

F. The June 1, 2009 Form 8-K Disclosure Was Inadequate

Throughout the case, Defendants and New GM have pointed to Old GM's June 1, 2009 Form 8-K (the "Form 8-K") ⁵² as evidence that the Creditors' Committee and the Court should have been aware of the Lock-Up Agreement and its associated transactions. Despite Defendants' and New GM's repeated contentions, the disclosure in the Form 8-K is inadequate for two reasons.

First, the Form 8-K is not a pleading in this bankruptcy proceeding. Defendants and New GM are essentially arguing that the Court and the Creditors' Committee were obligated to search the public record for evidence of the Lock-Up Agreement, an agreement neither knew existed. This contention is absurd. It was perfectly reasonable for the Creditors' Committee and this Court to expect that an agreement involving Old GM, and as monumental as the Lock-Up Agreement, would be the subject of a transparent filing in this bankruptcy proceeding. This is particularly so in light of the numerous filings, described above, which should have disclosed the substance of the Lock-Up Agreement, but failed to do so. As Mr. Mayer of Kramer Levin testified, the Lock-Up Agreement was not the type of transaction as to which an 8-K filing would have been sufficient to put the Creditors' Committee on notice. 53

Second, even if, *arguendo*, the Form 8-K had been brought to the attention of the Court and Creditors' Committee prior to entry of the Sale Order, the import of the Lock-Up Agreement would still be unknown to anyone other than the select few involved in negotiating its terms.

⁵² See Pl. Ex. 29 (Form 8-K).

See Mayer Tr. 173:10-23 (Oct. 3, 2012) (Fisher: "And in or about October 2009 did you have any communications with Weil, Gotshal about the lock-up agreement?" Answer: "Yes, we did." Fisher: "And what did you discuss with them?" Answer: "Well, my recollection is that we said – and at some point and it may have been to Mr. Karotkin – I said what the heck is this, and my interlocutor said, well, there was an 8-K filed that – on June 1 that showed we were doing this. And I said to him, you're telling me you expected a \$2.6 billion claim settlement and a 350 million cash payment to be done with adequate notice by 8-K without actually bringing it to court for approval on notice to parties? You got to be kidding.").

The Form 8-K downplays the Lock-Up Agreement, describing it merely as a settlement of the Nova Scotia Proceeding "for a release of all defendants to that proceeding." The Form 8-K also mentions a cash payment, funded by GM Canada, to be paid by GM Nova Scotia to the Noteholders in exchange for extinguishment of the Intercompany Loans. This limited description, however, omits critical aspects of the Lock-Up Agreement. For example, the Form 8-K does not mention Nova Scotia Finance's consent to bankruptcy (and contemplated duplicative assertion of the Guarantee and ULC Claims). Nor does the Form 8-K disclose the Swaps in any way. At trial, witnesses conceded that the Form 8-K also does not mention Old GM's transfer of \$450 million to pay the Consent Fee.

Thus, even if the Court overlooks the failure to disclose the terms of the Lock-Up Agreement in this bankruptcy proceeding and considers the Form 8-K a proper vehicle for disclosure, the Form 8-K's omission of critical terms of the Lock-Up Agreement still warrants Rule 60(b) relief from the Sale Order.

⁵⁴ See Pl. Ex. 29 (Form 8-K) at AUR_GM014280-81.

⁵⁵ *Id*.

See Pl. Ex. 29 (Form 8-K); Zirinsky Tr. 84:18-20 (Aug. 8, 2012) (Fisher: "Does [the Form 8-K] say anything about the Nova Scotia – the contemplated Nova Scotia Finance Company bankruptcy filing?" Answer: "Not to the best of my recollection."); Buonomo Tr. 139:21-24 (Aug. 9, 2012) (Fisher: "[The Form 8-K] doesn't say anything about GM Nova Scotia Finance Company being authorized to consent to a bankruptcy, does it?" Answer: "Not to my recollection.").

See Buonomo Tr. 142:7-10 (Aug. 10, 2012) ("I know there was never an 8-K filed by either Old or New GM about the swaps. I don't think – I'm not aware of any other public disclosure, but I know pretty close to the certainty that there was never an 8-K done.").

See Pl. Ex. 29 (Form 8-K); Ammann Tr. 87:6-8 (Sept. 27, 2012) (Fisher: "Now, the transfer of \$450 million from Old GM to GM Canada is not disclosed in this 8-K, correct?" Answer: "It doesn't appear to be."); Zirinsky Aug. 8, 2012 Tr. 84:5-84:6 (Fisher: "[The Form 8-K] didn't say anything about the loan, right?" Answer: "I don't believe so."); *id.* at 83:22–25 (Fisher: "And did [the Form 8-K] make any reference to a loan that had been made by old GM to GM Canada?" Answer: "I don't think the 8-K specifically referred to a loan by GM U.S. to GM Canada I don't believe."); Buonomo Tr. 139:10-14 (Aug. 9, 2012) (Fisher: "And the [Form 8K] that ultimately was filed, does it say anything about the \$450 million loan from Old GM to GM Canada?" Answer: "I don't think so, although I don't have it in front of me, but I don't believe so.").

G. The Parties to the Lock-Up Agreement Attempted to Evade this Court's Review

Rather than disclose the Lock-Up Agreement, the parties to the agreement sought to evade this Court's review. The parties repeatedly discussed whether court approval was necessary, ⁵⁹ and decided that it was not, with the Noteholders' counsel concluding that "perhaps court approval isn't so important." ⁶⁰ The parties were fully aware that any post-petition amendment of the Lock-Up Agreement would require Court approval, ⁶¹ but the parties chose not to seek Court approval of the agreement even though the Lock-Up Agreement was completed postpetition. ⁶² Ultimately, the parties, knowing the inequities of the Lock-Up Agreement, kept the substance of the agreement hidden because they were aware that creditors would object and did not want this transaction to face the scrutiny of the Court or Old GM's creditors. ⁶³

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See Zirinsky Tr. 22:13-21 (Aug. 8, 2012) (the issue of bankruptcy court approval was discussed at least one or two times); Pl. Ex. 3 (Prieto Notebook) at AUR_GM021454 ("GM is not a party to the agreement, do not envision this being approved by Bankruptcy Court.").

Pl. Ex. 148 (May 30, 2009 email from Zirinsky) at NGM000000636; Zirinsky Tr. 30:7-31:1(Aug. 8, 2012) (Zirinsky concedes his initial view was that bankruptcy court approval was not important).

See Pl. Ex. 527 (June 26, 2009 email from Buonomo to Gropper discussing possible postpetition amendment to the Lock-Up Agreement) at AUR_GM037331 ("I need to be certain we can do it without bankruptcy court approval …").

See Jones Tr. 212:16-25; 213:1-6 (Mar. 3, 2013) (the metadata log and the internal metadata for the execution version of the Lock-Up Agreement show that the execution version was created postpetition).

See Buonomo Tr. 113:6-12 (Aug. 10, 2012) (when Buonomo was negotiating the Lock-Up Agreement, he knew that there would be objections down the road from Old GM's creditors); Pl. Ex. 3 (Prieto Notebook) at AUR_GM021453 ("[D]o not want to give GM US creditors more reasons to object.").

IV. PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

A. The Creditors' Committee Did Not Become Aware of the Lock-Up Agreement Until October 2009

It was not until October of 2009, well after entry of the Sale Order, that the Creditors' Committee became aware of the significance of the Lock-Up Agreement.⁶⁴ The Lock-Up Agreement was not brought to the attention of counsel for the Creditors' Committee until the fall of 2009 when Old GM's counsel called Mr. Mayer to alert him to the Lock-Up Agreement for the first time.⁶⁵ After Mr. Mayer was told about the Lock-Up Agreement by Old GM's counsel, the Creditors' Committee's counsel began to investigate the matter. However, New GM and the Nova Scotia Finance Trustee did not cooperate with requests for information made by Kramer Levin in December 2009 concerning the Nova Scotia Proceeding and the Lock-Up Agreement.⁶⁶ As Canadian counsel for certain of the Noteholders commented to Mr. Zirinsky, "I do not think that Wedlake will wish to spend much time or money providing such information to the unsecured creditors committee..."⁶⁷

After investigating the Lock-Up Agreement, its related transactions and the many related complexities, the Creditors' Committee filed its Objection to Claims Filed by Green Hunt Wedlake, Inc. and Noteholders of General Motors Nova Scotia Finance Company and Motion

See Vanaskey Tr. 96:4-5 (Nov. 27, 2012) ("I don't recall discussing the matters of the lockup agreement before October of – of 2009 with anybody."); *id.* at 96:13-15 ("[The Committee became aware of the Lock-Up Agreement] sometime [in] October or you know the fall of 2009 is the first time the committee actively discussed the lockup agreement and or the Nova Scotia bonds.").

⁶⁵ See Mayer Tr. 173:10-23 (Oct. 3, 2012).

See Pl. Ex. 157 (December 8, 2009 email from Kramer Levin to Lawrence Buonomo attaching information request); Buonomo Tr. 103:20-22 (Aug. 10, 2012) (Fisher: "You never provided any information to Ms. Macksoud, did you?" Answer: "Not directly, I don't believe so."); Wedlake Tr. 123:15-18 (Aug. 7, 2012) (Fisher: "And in fact, Mr. Wedlake, in response to this request from the creditors committee you did not provide any information right?" Answer: "Not that I recall no.").

Pl. Ex. 273 (December 8, 2009 email from Robert MacKeigan of Cox & Palmer to Zirinsky) at GHW0004126.

for Other Relief on July 2, 2010 (the "**Initial Objection**")⁶⁸ and the First Amended Objection on November 19, 2010.⁶⁹ Both pleadings seek narrow Rule 60(b) relief from the Sale Order in the alternative, to the extent the Court rules that the Sale Order "authorized the Debtors to assume and/or assign the Lock-Up Agreement and any other obligations incident thereto, including those concerning the swap transactions." For the nearly three years following that initial filing in July 2010, the Creditors' Committee and, later the GUC Trust, have never deviated from the limited request for alternative relief.

B. The GUC Trust's Request for Rule 60(b) Relief Has Been Limited, Alternative and Consistent

Since filing its Initial Objection in July 2010, the GUC Trust has only sought Rule 60(b) relief in the alternative, should the Court find the Lock-Up Agreement was assumed and assigned to New GM, that the Swaps were assumed and assigned (or otherwise transferred) to New GM, or that avoidance actions with respect to the Consent Fee were sold to New GM. The GUC Trust has consistently told Defendants, New GM and this Court that the need for Rule 60(b) relief, although justified, is highly unlikely and only raised protectively.

For example, at the December 15, 2010 Status Hearing before this Court, counsel for the GUC Trust noted: "[Defendants are] trying to use the assumption [of the Lock-Up Agreement] itself to bootstrap arguments on the merits and to argue that the lockup agreement in its entirety is insulated from review. And so to the extent that the sale order and assumption order can be construed to be a judicial finding to that effect, we might need [Rule 60(b)] relief from such an

⁶⁸ Bankr. Dkt. No. 6248.

⁶⁹ Bankr. Dkt. No. 7859.

See Initial Obj. ¶ 70; see also First. Am. Obj. ¶ 73 ("This request for relief is asserted protectively").

order."⁷¹ Again in its pre-trial brief, the GUC Trust reserved its rights to limited Rule 60(b) relief should it become necessary based on the outcome of the trial.⁷² Finally, upon conclusion of the trial on March 19, 2013, the GUC Trust's counsel acknowledged that the Rule 60(b) claim was an argument in the alternative and explained:⁷³

Your Honor, for more than two years now, [our petition] for 60(b) relief has been consistent and there is not any change in our position on Rule 60(b) relief. To reiterate our position and to be clear, we do plan to brief the Rule 60(b) issue as an alternative argument in our post-trial briefs[.] [S]pecifically, what the 60(b) relief goes to. Again, it's been constant for a very long time[.] [B]ut it goes to the argument that New GM or the Noteholders may make that avoidance actions related to the consent fee have been sold to New GM and, therefore, we can't seek 502(d) relief on the basis of any avoidance theory. We don't think the court will need to grant 60(b) relief to get us to the relief that we are looking for in this case[.] [Blut if the court finds that the avoidance action related to the consent fee was sold to [N]ew GM, we would ask the court to amend the sale order in that respect. Again, I don't think it will come to that[.] [I]t is in the nature of an alternative argument, as it always has been. With regard to the swap claim, ... it's our position that those swaps were never validly terminated, don't give rise to a proper claim, were not assumed and assigned, were not sold to [N]ew GM, but, in the event that the Court finds that they were sold to [N]ew GM by virtue of the sale order, then we would seek relief from the sale order to get us the relief that we think we're entitled to with regard to the swap claim, and finally, with regard to the [Lock-Up Agreement] itself, it's our position and we think that the evidence shows, that the [Lock-Up Agreement] is a void, post-petition agreement, but, in the event that the Court finds that the [Lock-Up Agreement] was assumed by the Old GM estate and assigned to [N]ew GM, then we reserve all rights to seek relief from any provisions of the sale order that endorse that view, that the [Lock-Up Agreement] was assigned to [N]ew GM. Those are the areas in which we seek 60(b) relief and only in the alternative.

Dec. 15, 2010 Status Hr'g Tr. 52:8-13 (Bankr. Dkt. No. 8626).

July 27, 2012 GUC Trust Pre-Trial Br. at 25 n.6 (Adv. Pr. Dkt. 148) ("The GUC Trust has not briefed, but reserves all of its rights in connection with, any future requests for relief from the Sale Order under Rule 60(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.").

⁷³ Lopez Tr. 68:3-69:16 (Mar. 19, 2013).

C. Defendants, New GM and the Court Have Long Been Aware of the Nature of the GUC Trust's Limited Rule 60(b) Relief

Defendants and New GM have been aware that the GUC Trust seeks Rule 60(b) relief as alternative relief for almost three years.⁷⁴ In fact, certain Defendants addressed the GUC Trust's claim for Rule 60(b) relief in their initial response to the First Amended Objection, which they filed on December 13, 2010.⁷⁵ The Court has also been consistently apprised of the nature of the GUC Trust's Rule 60(b) request.⁷⁶

Similarly, before the trial of this matter, New GM sought and was granted permission to move for summary judgment to dismiss the GUC Trust's Rule 60(b) claim.⁷⁷ In the process, New GM filed almost sixty pages of briefing on the issue of Rule 60(b).⁷⁸ In its opposition brief and during oral arguments on the motion, the GUC Trust argued that Rule 60(b) relief was

See Oct. 28, 2011 Status Hr'g Tr. 19:17-22 (Bankr. Dkt. No. 11105) (Steinberg concedes he was aware of the request for Rule 60(b) relief); December 15, 2010 Status Hr'g Tr. 42:12-43:2 (Bankr. Dkt. No. 8626) (Steinberg: "[T]here's a Rule 60(b) request to vacate the sale order," and the relief sought is "protective."); Lopez Tr. 66:14-17 (Mar. 19, 2013) (Steinberg: "When the claims objection was filed, there was one paragraph there. It said that they were asserting it protectively in anticipation of a need to respond to the [N]oteholders' argument.").

See Response of Certain Noteholders to First Amended Objection at 59-67 (Bankr. Dkt. No. 8084) ("The Committee is asking the Court to modify the Sale Order and set aside MLC's assumption and assignment to New GM of the Lock-Up Agreement."); Nova Scotia Trustee Response to First Amended Objection at 18 (Bankr. Dkt. No. 8088) (the Nova Scotia Trustee joins in the Noteholders' arguments regarding Rule 60(b)).

Lopez Tr. 70:21-71:6 (Mar. 19, 2013) (Court: "As you well know, [E. Fisher] has on many occasions, expressed his desire to ask for 60(b) relief in the alternative[.] [T]he problem to which I was subjected and you were subjected was not him coming up with new contentions today, March 19th. It was him holding out the wild card that you might have to deal with new or shifting contentions. This is not materially different than anything he's said before. What he has brought to the table today is he has said, honest injun, this is all of it. So now you know what you need to deal with.").

See May 15, 2012 Status Conference (granting request to file motion for summary judgment); May 24, 2012 Scheduling Order Regarding New GM Motion for Summary Judgment (Adv. Pr. Dkt. 24).

See June 8, 2012 Memorandum of Law In Support of New GM's Motion for Summary Judgment (Adv. Pr. Dkt. 33); July 11, 2012 Reply Brief in Support of New GM's Motion for Summary Judgment (Adv. Pr. Dkt 95).

limited, sought alternatively, and was likely unnecessary.⁷⁹ Ultimately, New GM's motion was denied on the ground that the Rule 60(b) claim was not ripe for decision until the very issues the GUC Trust identified were decided.⁸⁰ In light of the over ninety pages of briefing filed on the Rule 60(b) claim alone, it is not credible for New GM, or for any other party, to claim that they are unaware of the basis for the GUC Trust's request for Rule 60(b) relief.

ARGUMENT

I. RULE 60(b) RELIEF IS WARRANTED

A. The Standard for Relief Under Rule 60(b)

This Court has discretion to rescind or amend a final judgment under Rule 60(b). *Kotlicky v. U.S. Fid. & Guar. Co.*, 817 F.2d 6, 8 (2d Cir. 1987). In applying the rule, the Court must "strike[] a balance between serving the ends of justice and preserving the finality of judgments." *Pasquino v. Lev Parkview Developers, LLC*, No. 09 Civ. 4255, 2011 WL 4502205, at *3 (S.D.N.Y. Sept. 29, 2011) (quotation and citation omitted); *Catskill Dev., LLC v. Park Place Entm't Corp.*, 286 F. Supp. 2d 309, 312 (S.D.N.Y. 2003). Because final judgments should not be reopened lightly, "Rule 60(b) is 'invoked only upon a showing of exceptional circumstances." *Pasquino*, 2011 WL 4502205, at *3 (citation omitted).

June 29, 2012 GUC Trust Opp. Br. at 6-16 (Bankr. Dkt. No. 11884; Adv. Pr. Dkt. 72); New GM SJ Hr'g Tr. 49:17-19 ("In July 2010 as part of our initial objection in this case we indicated that we were asserting and reserving our rights to pursue 60(b) relief protectively."); *id.* at 50:9-13 ("The reason that we asserted 60(b) protectively is because what we were saying is if we do not need relief from the sale order we won't pull the trigger on that. We respect that wherever possible judgments should be treated as final.").

New GM SJ Hr'g Tr. 90:15-16.

Judgment reinstated, 345 F. Supp. 2d 360 (S.D.N.Y. Nov. 15, 2004), vacated and remanded, Catskill Litig. Trust v. Park Place Entm't Corp., 169 Fed. App'x 658 (2d Cir. 2006), on remand to Debary v. Harrah's Operating Co., Inc., 465 F. Supp. 2d 250 (S.D.N.Y. 2006) aff'd by 547 F.3d 115 (2d Cir. 2008), cert. denied, Catskill Dev., LLC v. Harrah's Operating Co., Inc., 129 S. Ct. 1908 (2009).

Rule 60(b) provides in relevant part: "On motion and just terms, the court may relieve a party or its legal representative from a final judgment, order, or proceeding for the following reasons:

- (1) mistake, inadvertence, surprise, or excusable neglect;
- (2) newly discovered evidence that, with reasonable diligence, could not have been discovered in time to move for a new trial under Rule 59(b);
- (3) fraud (whether previously called intrinsic or extrinsic), misrepresentation, or misconduct by an opposing party;
- (6) any other reason that justifies relief.

Fed. R. Civ. P. 60(b); Fed. R. Bankr. P. 9024. The burden of showing the judgment should be amended or vacated rests on the movant, who must "(1) support its motions with highly convincing evidence; (2) show good cause for its failure to act sooner; and (3) prove that granting the motion will not impose any undue hardship on the other parties." *Green v. Advanced Cardiovascular Imaging*, No. 07 Civ. 3141, 2009 WL 3154317, at *2 (S.D.N.Y. Sept. 30, 2009).

As demonstrated more fully below, courts consistently grant Rule 60(b) relief under subsections (1), (2), (3) and (6) because of failures to disclose information that, if known, would have altered the final judgment or order in question. *See e.g., SEC v. Wojeski*, 752 F. Supp. 2d 220, 229-31 (N.D.N.Y. 2010) (allowing reconsideration of judgment where trust failed to disclose certain pertinent annuity agreements), *aff'd*, *Smith v. SEC*, 432 F. App'x 10 (2d Cir. 2011); *Vasquez v. Carey*, No. 03 Civ. 3905 (RJH), 2010 WL 1140850, at *8 (S.D.N.Y. Mar. 24, 2010) (granting Rule 60(b)(1) motion for relief because identity of proper defendant was not revealed to movant until after entry of the order); *Judith Ripka Creations, Inc. v. Rubinoff Imps., Inc.*, No. 03 Civ. 9377 (BSJ), 2004 WL 1609338, at *3-4 (S.D.N.Y. July 16, 2004) (vacating judgment where defendants failed to disclose facts pertinent to settlement negotiations); *In re*

Jack Kline Co., Inc., 440 B.R. 712, 738-39 (Bankr. S.D. Tex. 2010) (granting relief from, and amending, a sale order pursuant to Rule 60(b)(3)); In re Enron Creditors Recovery Corp., No. 01-16034 (AJG), 2009 WL 3756951, at *4 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. Nov. 6, 2009) (granting Rule 60(b)(6) relief because movant did not receive adequate notice of hearing). Rule 60(b) relief is appropriate here because of the failure to disclose the Lock-Up Agreement and the Swaps prior to entry of the Sale Order.

- B. Relief Under Rule 60(b)(1) and (2) Is Appropriate

 Because of the Failure to Disclose the Lock-Up Agreement and Swaps
 - 1. The Creditors' Committee Should Be
 Excused Under Rule 60(b)(1) for Not Challenging
 the Lock-Up Agreement Prior to Entry of the Sale Order

Subsection (1) of Rule 60(b) permits relief from an order or judgment in the case of mistake, inadvertence, surprise, or excusable neglect. Rule 60(b)(1) is typically applied to vacate default judgments. The subsection is not limited to that use, however, and permits the court to vacate an order or judgment based on mistakes or excusable neglect by a party or its counsel. Excusable neglect is evaluated under the factors set forth by the Supreme Court in *Pioneer Investment Services Co. v. Brunswick Associates, LP*, 507 U.S. 380, 395 (1993): (1) the danger of prejudice to the non-moving party; (2) the length of delay and its potential impact on the judicial proceedings; (3) the reason for delay; and (4) whether the movant acted in good faith. *Green*, 2009 WL 3154317, at *2; *Guishan, Inc. v. Arici*, 635 F. Supp. 2d 187, 192 (E.D.N.Y. 2009). The analysis of these factors is subsumed by the general Rule 60(b) requirements that relief from the order not impose undue hardship, and that the motion be brought within a reasonable time. As discussed below, in Sections II and III, the GUC Trust has satisfied the *Pioneer* standard.

Here, relief under Rule 60(b)(1) is warranted because the Creditors' Committee's failure to challenge the Lock-Up Agreement and Swaps before entry of the Sale Order resulted from "excusable neglect." The Creditors' Committee did not challenge the Lock-Up Agreement and Swaps before entry of the Sale Order only because it was unaware, through no fault of its own, of the Lock-Up Agreement or its potential effect on the unsecured creditors of Old GM. Under Rule 60(b)(1), the Creditors' Committee should thus be excused from the consequences of not challenging the Lock-Up Agreement and its related transactions before entry of the Sale Order, because the Creditors' Committee's inaction was not a calculated or deliberate choice. *Katz v. Mogus*, No. 07 Civ. 8314, 2012 WL 263462, at *3 (S.D.N.Y. Jan. 25, 2012).

2. Failure to Disclose the Lock-Up Agreement and Swaps Warrants Relief Under Rule 60(b)(2)

Rule 60(b)(2) permits relief from a judgment or order if the moving party shows the existence of "newly discovered evidence that, with reasonable diligence, could not have been discovered" in advance of the order and the "evidence [is] of such importance that it probably would have changed the outcome of the previous decision." *Bd. of Trs. of S. Cal. IBEW-NECA Defined Contribution Plan v. Bank of N.Y. Mellon Corp.*, No. 09 Civ. 6273 (RMB) (AJP), 2010 WL 3958790, at *3-4 (S.D.N.Y. Sept. 7, 2010) (granting Rule 60(b) motion and reopening case without "definitively deciding" whether evidence would have changed the outcome of the judgment) (citation and quotation omitted); *Commer v. McEntee*, No. 00 Civ. 7913 (RWS), 2005 WL 1250214, at *2 (S.D.N.Y. May 27, 2005); *Kurzweil v. Philip Morris Cos., Inc.*, Nos. 94 Civ. 2373, 94 Civ. 2546 (MBM) (MBM), 1997 WL 167043, at *6 (S.D.N.Y. April 9, 1997).

The GUC Trust has shown that no party brought the Lock-Up Agreement or related transactions to the attention of the Creditors' Committee until October 2009, well after the Sale Order was entered. The Creditors' Committee acted diligently in investigating the terms of the

Sale Order. However, because disclosure of the Lock-Up Agreement and Swaps was deficient, they remained unknown to the Creditors' Committee and its counsel. The Creditors' Committee had no reason to investigate the substance of an agreement it did not know about prior to entry of the Sale Order. As this Court has noted, the substance of the Lock-Up Agreement came as a "shock" to the Court when this current controversy arose upon the filing of the Creditors' Committee's Initial Objection.

The sale process and, ultimately, the Sale Order would have been different if the Creditors' Committee and this Court had known about the Lock-Up Agreement. Undoubtedly, the Creditors' Committee would have challenged the Lock-Up Agreement and related Swaps had it been aware of the relevant facts before entry of the Sale Order. Further, the Court has stated that, had it known about the Lock-Up Agreement, it "might well have refused to sign the order in its then existing form, and I would have insisted the lock-up agreement not be insulated from judicial scrutiny no matter what threats the Nova Scotia Noteholders had made at the time." All of the information about the Lock-Up Agreement that has come to light only after entry of the Sale Order satisfies the "newly-discovered evidence" standard of Rule 60(b)(2) and constitutes exceptional circumstances warranting modification of the Sale Order under Rule 60(b)(2). *Kurzweil*, 1997 WL 167043, at *6 (granting Rule 60(b)(2) motion).

C. Failure to Disclose the Lock-Up Agreement and Swaps Constitutes Misconduct Which Warrants Relief Under Rule 60(b)(3)

Rule 60(b)(3) permits relief from a judgment or order that was the subject of fraud, misrepresentation, or misconduct. Fed. R. Civ. P. 60(b)(3). A failure to disclose relevant information that influences the Court's judgment or order constitutes exceptional circumstances that justify Rule 60(b)(3) relief. *Wojeski*, 752 F. Supp. 2d at 229 n.17 (SEC was entitled to

New GM SJ Hr'g Tr. 93:14-18.

reconsideration of a judgment based on a newly discovered annuity contract that was previously not disclosed). The movant must come forward with clear and convincing evidence that the fraud, misrepresentation or misconduct complained of prevented the moving party from "fully and fairly presenting his case or defense." *In re Olejnik*, No. 09-76714-AST, 2010 WL 4366183, at *4 (Bankr. E.D.N.Y. Oct. 28, 2010) (granting relief where debtor misrepresented his assets and failed to file mandatory disclosure statements).

Even where there was no duty to disclose, courts can find that the omission of pertinent information satisfies Rule 60(b)(3), if that information would have affected the judgment or order. *Judith Ripka Creations, Inc.*, 2004 WL 1609338, at *3-4 (granting Rule 60(b)(3) motion and noting that "even if I did not find that Defendants had a duty to disclose, I would nonetheless vacate the judgment under Rule 60(b)(3) because [Defendants] made statements in the course of settlement negotiations that affirmatively misrepresented the amount that defendants profited ..."). The Court need not find intentional bad faith in order to vacate a judgment under Rule 60(b)(3). *Id.* at 4; *Catskill Dev., LLC*, 286 F. Supp. 2d at 314 ("even an accidental failure to disclose ... can constitute 'misconduct' within the purview of Rule 60(b)(3)").

As described above, the terms of the Lock Up Agreement were never adequately disclosed to the Creditors' Committee or this Court. The failure to adequately disclose the Lock-Up Agreement prior to entry of the Sale Order is misconduct that justifies Rule 60(b)(3) relief because the concealment of this information impeded the Creditors' Committee's ability to act in the interest of unsecured creditors with respect to the Sale Order. Thus, Rule 60(b)(3) relief is appropriate.

D. The Extraordinary Circumstances of this Matter Justify Rule 60(b)(6) Relief
Rule 60(b)(6) can be invoked for "any other reason that justifies relief." Fed. R. Civ. P.
60(b)(6). Should the court find that the other subsections of Rule 60(b) are inapplicable, it can

use Rule 60(b)(6) to modify the Sale Order. Rule 60(b)(6) is described as a "grand reservoir of equitable power to do justice in a particular case." *In re Enron Creditors Recovery Corp.*, 2009 WL 3756951, at *3 (citation and quotation omitted). The movant must show extraordinary circumstances or that the judgment results in an extreme or undue hardship to justify relief under Rule 60(b)(6). *Montco*, 666 F.2d at 759 (citing *U.S. v. Karahalias*, 205 F.2d 331, 333 (2d Cir. 1953)).

The facts of this case are nothing short of extraordinary. The parties to the Lock-Up Agreement sought to evade judicial review of an agreement that resulted in the assertion of almost \$2.7 billion in claims and a \$367 million cash transfer to the Noteholders from funds advanced by Old GM. Facts far more ordinary than these have warranted Rule 60(b)(6) relief.

For example, in *Montco, Inc. v. Barr (In re Emergency Beacon Corp.)*, 666 F.2d 754 (2d Cir. 1981), the Second Circuit affirmed a lower court's modification of an order under Rule 60(b)(6). The underlying order permitted a debtor to issue a certification of indebtedness, giving the holder of the certificate priority over other general creditors of the debtor. *Id.* at 761. The bankruptcy court had declined to authorize the certification at a hearing held prior to entry of the order because it lacked sufficient information about the certification, and no subsequent application for permission was made to the court. *Id.* at 756. Despite this, authorization to issue the certificate was included in a proposed order. Unaware that the provision was included, the Court, not intending to authorize the certificate, signed the order. *Id.* at 759. Because "the court simply did not intend to authorize such a certificate," the Second Circuit found extraordinary circumstances justifying Rule 60(b)(6) relief. *Id.*

If the relief sought falls within Rule 60(b)(1) through (5), Rule 60(b)(6) relief is not available. *Montco, Inc. v. Barr (In re Emergency Beacon Corp.)*, 666 F.2d 754, 758 (2d Cir. 1981).

Here, like in the Second Circuit's *Montco* decision, the Court was not aware of the Lock-Up Agreement or Swaps prior to entering the Sale Order and no one sought the Court's approval of the Lock-Up Agreement. Like *Montco*, this Court did not intend the unknown consequences of approving the Sale Order. As this Court stated in denying New GM's motion for summary judgment:

When I approved the sale agreement and entered the sale approval order I mistakenly thought that I was merely saving GM, the supply chain, and about a million jobs. Likewise, I thought that as part of that I was approving the assumption and assignment of contracts mainly with the many vendors in the supply chain whose contracts were essential to New GM's future and the health of the U.S. auto industry. I was unaware that by an agreement undisclosed to me that would be said to be assumed and assigned incident to the sale order or that might have been an unauthorized post-petition transaction, I was also authorizing a payment to a limited number of creditors of \$376 million, a commitment not to object to as much as \$2.76 billion in claims, and an assignment out of the estate of the right to bring important avoidance actions. It never once occurred to me, and nobody bothered to disclose, that amongst all of the assigned contracts was this [Lock-Up Agreement], if indeed it was assigned at all.

New GM SJ Hr'g Tr. 93:19-94:12. As the Second Circuit found in *Montco*, if indeed the Court inadvertently approved assignment and assumption of the Lock-Up Agreement and the Swaps, then there are extraordinary circumstances warranting relief under Rule 60(b)(6).

II. THE GUC TRUST'S REQUEST FOR RULE 60(b) RELIEF IS TIMELY

Timeliness under Rule 60(b) is a fact-intensive inquiry that requires a court to "look at the particular circumstances of the case, and balance the interests in finality of a judgment with the reasons for any delay." *In re Olejnik*, 2010 WL 4366183, at *4 (finding moving party's lack of knowledge of particular sale which influenced the judgment, justified the seven month delay after the case was closed); *P.T. Busana Idaman Nurani v. Marissa by GHR Indus. Trading*, 151 F.R.D. 32, 35 (S.D.N.Y. 1993) ("What constitutes a reasonable time for purposes of Rule 60(b)(6) will necessarily vary with the particular circumstances of a case."). To be timely, a

motion for relief under Rule 60(b)(1) through (5) must be brought within one year of entry of the judgment or order that is the subject of the motion. Fed. R. Civ. P. 60(c)(1). Any motion for Rule 60(b) relief, even those brought within one year of entry of the judgment or order, must also be made "within a reasonable time." *Id.* It is the movant's burden to show that it acted in a reasonable time and that there was good cause for any delay. *Guishan, Inc.*, 635 F. Supp. 2d at 192.

The Sale Order in this case was entered on July 5, 2009. Less than one year later, the GUC Trust requested Rule 60(b) relief in its Initial Objection, satisfying the first prong of the timeliness requirement of Rule 60(b). Further, the gap between entry of the Sale Order and the GUC Trust's Initial Objection was "reasonable" under Rule 60(b). Because of the concealment of the terms of the Lock-Up Agreement prior to entry of the Sale Order, the Creditors' Committee, despite its due diligence during the sale process, did not become aware of the Lock-Up Agreement until October 2009. Upon being told about the Lock-Up Agreement, counsel for the Creditors' Committee began an in-depth investigation of the Lock-Up Agreement and the complex surrounding circumstances. As soon as counsel for the Creditors' Committee had a sufficient understanding of the Lock-Up Agreement, Rule 60(b) relief was sought.

Numerous cases hold that delays longer than one year are reasonable under Rule 60(b). *See, e.g., Montco*, 666 F.2d at 760 (affirming an order vacating order despite a 26 month period between entry of the order and trustee's challenge to the order); *Golden Oldies, Ltd. v. Scorpion Auction Grp., Inc.*, 199 F.R.D. 98, 100 (E.D.N.Y. 2001) (granting Rule 60(b) motion, finding two-year gap between entry of the order and challenge reasonable). This is particularly so when the reason for the delay is lack of disclosure. *Vasquez*, 2010 WL 1140850, at *8 (holding nearly one year delay was justified because pertinent information was not known to the movant for

many months); *In re Olejnik*, 2010 WL 4366183, at *4 (finding moving party's lack of knowledge of particular sale which influenced the judgment justified the seven month delay after the case was closed).

For example, in *Montco*, the Second Circuit held that a 26 month delay was reasonable where neither the "chairman of the creditors' committee nor co-counsel for the committee had been served" with a copy of the proposed order that was the subject of the Rule 60(b) motion. *Montco*, 666 F.2d at 760. Although notice of the proposed order was not strictly required by the Bankruptcy Rules, the *Montco* court noted that "lack of notice is an appropriate consideration in evaluating the reasonableness of the time at which the motion to vacate was made." *Id.* As in *Montco*, the failure to disclose the Lock-Up Agreement and Swaps to the Creditors' Committee demonstrates that any delay on the part of the Creditors' Committee was reasonable.

III. RULE 60(b) RELIEF WILL NOT IMPOSE UNDUE HARDSHIP ON THE PARTIES

Applying Rule 60(b)(1) and Rule 60(b), generally, many courts analyze whether vacating the judgment in question will prejudice or impose undue hardship on the non-moving parties. *Kotlicky*, 817 F.2d at 9; *Katz*, 2012 WL 263462, at *4; *Sec. Pac. Mortg. & Real Estate Servs.*, *Inc. v. Herald Ctr. Ltd.*, 731 F. Supp. 605, 610 (S.D.N.Y. 1990). This condition lends itself more appropriately to evaluating default judgments, when the non-moving party, through no fault of its own, loses the benefit of a favorable judgment.

In this case, it is the Creditors' Committee that lost the opportunity to challenge the Lock-Up Agreement and the Swaps through no fault of its own. Moreover, the Noteholders are – at least in part and in collaboration with Old GM employees and advisors who now work for New GM⁸⁴ – responsible for the failure to disclose the Lock-Up Agreement and Swaps.⁸⁵ The Noteholders supported limited disclosure of the Lock-Up Agreement and Consent Fee because they did not want the agreement to be subject to genuine scrutiny.⁸⁶ Thus, unlike review of a default judgment where the nonmoving party innocently loses the benefit of a favorable judgment, Defendants here supported the lack of disclosure which serves as the basis for the Rule 60(b) relief.

Also, none of the parties will be prejudiced if the Court grants the Motion because the GUC Trust is seeking a narrow modification of the Sale Order only as to the Lock-Up Agreement and Swaps, and transfer of certain avoidance actions. Defendants cannot argue they will be prejudiced by these modifications because the evidence at trial shows that, months after entry of the Sale Order, Defendants themselves were not aware that the Lock-Up Agreement had been assumed and assigned.⁸⁷ Similarly, the parties did not always think that the Swaps had been assumed and assigned to New GM.⁸⁸ Thus, Defendants cannot argue that they relied on the

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Along with the Noteholders, current employees of New GM also had a hand in the failure to disclose, and New GM has benefitted from the Lock-Up Agreement. Dan Ammann, the former outside financial advisor for Old GM and Lawrence Buonomo, a former Old GM employee, are both now employed by New GM and both knew of the inadequate disclosures made by Old GM in June 2009. *See* Buonomo Tr. 132:12-15, 132:22-133:1 (Aug. 10, 2012); Ammann Tr. 87:6-8 (Sept. 27, 2012).

See Truong Tr. 36:20-24 (Sept. 20, 2012) (Truong of Fortress had an opportunity to, and did, comment on the June 1, 2009 8-K); Buonomo Tr. 138:25-139: 4 (Aug. 9, 2012) (Gropper of Aurelius reviewed the Form 8-K before it was filed).

See Pl. Ex. 3 (Prieto Notebook) at AUR_GM021457 ("[T]he money is in a trust account in Canada where it is being held for the deal – does not think that money will be attackable where it is now"); Zirinsky Tr. 38:15-18 (Aug. 8, 2012) ("[W]e wanted to be comfortable that the way this transaction was going to be structured would do so, would do it in the right way so that there wouldn't be any potential attack.").

See Pl. Ex. 153 (November 18, 2009 email from Buonomo to Zirinsky attaching letter that purported to "confirm" that New GM assumed the rights and obligations of Old GM under the Lock-Up Agreement).

See Pl. Ex. 248 (July 27, 2009 email from Prieto to Gropper, "there was an internal debate at GM at around the time of the settlement as to whether the swap claim would be included in the wind-up claim" and "apparently there is a view that [the] swap claim is not included when calculating the wind-up

assumption and assignment of the Lock-Up Agreement and Swaps if the evidence shows that, when the Sale Order was entered (and for months after), they did not believe that those acts had occurred.

Thus, New GM and the Noteholders will not suffer undue hardship if the limited Rule 60(b) relief is granted.

NOTICE

Notice of this Motion has been provided to the parties in interest in accordance with the Sixth Amended Order Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 105(a) and Bankruptcy Rules 1015(c) and 9007 establishing Notice and Case Management Procedures, dated May 5, 2011. ⁸⁹ The GUC Trust submits that such notice is sufficient and no other or further notice need be provided.

Although this relief was first requested on July 2, 2010, this matter has not previously been presented to this Court for adjudication.

claim") at AUR_GM039690-R (05-2012); Pl. Ex. 22 (July 30, 2009 email from Buonomo to Prieto stating: "I inquired with Weil Gotshal, which reminded me that inasmuch as the Swap was not assigned this decision rests with Motors Liquidation Company (Oldco), which apparently has it under review.") at AUR_GM021994.

Bankr. Dkt. No. 10183.

CONCLUSION

WHEREFORE, the GUC Trust respectfully requests that the Court enter an order granting the Motion for relief under Rule 60(b), and granting such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper

Dated: New York, New York

May 3, 2013

Respectfully submitted,

By: /s/ Eric B. Fisher

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